



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### GEORGIA DAY

- WHEREAS: The State of Georgia was founded by General James Edward Oglethorpe, who received a Royal Charter to establish a colony in honor of King George II. Oglethorpe led 116 people from England aboard the HMS Anne and landed near present-day Savannah on February 12, 1733; and
- WHEREAS: George Walton, Button Gwinnett, and Lymon Hall each signed the Declaration of Independence on behalf of Georgia, which later became the fourth state to ratify the Constitution of the United States on January 2, 1788; and
- WHEREAS: Since its founding 285 years ago, Georgia's population has grown to more than 10 million people and now stands as a commercial, financial, and cultural center for the Southeast and our nation; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia's magnificent natural beauty, from the mountains to the seashore, its many historical wonders and sites, as well as its distinctive cultural heritage, are all reasons to celebrate this great state; and
- WHEREAS: From the Creek Indians and early colonists, to Juliette Gordon Low, Jackie Robinson, and Martin Luther King, Jr., Georgia has been home to many influential leaders who have had monumental impacts on the world for the better; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia's storied past provides a strong foundation for a bright future and lends itself to valuable lessons. On Georgia Day, we remember the initial motto of our state as set forth by Oglethorpe, to serve and sacrifice "Not for ourselves but others"; and
- WHEREAS: All Georgians are invited to rediscover our state's natural, cultural, and historical wonders and sites, and to encourage individuals throughout our nation and around the world to recognize the people, institutions, and historic events that have shaped Georgia's place in our shared history and global commerce; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 12, 2018, as GEORGIA DAY in honor of our state's 285th anniversary and call upon all Georgians to celebrate our proud and rich heritage.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF